

REMARKS

Claims 56-71 are pending in the present application.

At the outset, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Swartz for the indication that the previous rejections of (a) Claims 58-59 and (b) Claims 60-70 as being indefinite have been withdrawn (paper number 28, page 2, paragraphs 3-4).

The rejection of Claims 56-70 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

Applicants have deleted the language in Claim 56 that the Examiner has found objectionable. Specifically, Applicants have amended Claim 56 to remove reference to the phrase “biologically active polynucleotide derivative.” Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 56-70 are definite within the context of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is requested.

The rejection of Claims 58 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph (enablement), is obviated by amendment.

In order to provide sufficient clarity to permit the artisan to appreciate the scope of the presently claimed invention, Applicants have replaced the phrase “epitope units of a polypeptide” with “repeats of one or more polypeptides.” Accordingly, Claims 58 and 59 are free from the term “epitope units,” which the Examiner found to lack sufficient enablement. Applicants submit that the skilled artisan would readily understand the meaning of amended Claims 58 and 59, as well as how to make and use the same without undue experimentation.

Thus, this rejection is no longer tenable and should be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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(OSMMN 08/03)

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